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REMARKS

Claims 1-2 were pending in the patent application. The Examiner has finally rejected Claims 1 and 2 under 35 USC 103 as unpatentable over the combined teachings of Snelling and Kung. By this amendment, Applicants have amended the language of independent Claim 1 and have added Claims 9-12 which depend from Claim 1. No additional filing fee is required for submission of the added claims. For the reasons set forth below, Applicants respectfully assert that all of the pending claims are patentable over the cited prior art.

The present application teaches and claims a network node device for automatically, dynamically, and selectively connecting one or more telephone wirelines to one or more wireless connections, with the aim of providing dynamic selective bridging of calls based on unique identifying information, including privacy policies associated with the wireless device to which the wireless connections are being made. The invention includes one or more connections to one or more telephone wirelines; one or more wireless signal generators supporting one or more wireless connections; an

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interconnection switch that makes and breaks one or more interconnections between the telephone wirelines and the respective wireless signal generators; at least one storage location for storing unique information for each of a plurality of wireless devices; and a bridge that dynamically bridges signals from multiple wireless connections to one or more of the telephone wirelines based on stored unique information (Claim 1) and may further include a verifier that verifies the validity of a request from a wireless device through a wireless connection for the bridging of signals (Claim 2). While multiple devices may share a telephone number, and the associated single wireline, the invention allows selective connection across the different devices based on the unique information associated with the devices.

The Snelling system is a single residence system which includes an NCU, 650, for interfacing to a number of PSTN lines and for rendering signals input on those lines compatible for delivery to the CAB module, 660. The CAB module is preprogrammed to connect signals from each PSTN line to a preset combination of devices (see: Col. 2, lines 24-34 and Col. 5, lines 25 et seq). As shown in Fig. 3A,

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the CAB is, in turn, connected to the radio multiplex engine 670 which performs the RF transmission to the handsets and WAUs specified by the CAB. The CAB/bridge of the Snelling system is preprogrammed with fixed assignments of signals from certain wirelines to certain devices. The Snelling patent has multiple wirelines, and therefore multiple different telephone numbers being fixedly associated with certain devices in the residence. Snelling does not teach or suggest the dynamic and selective bridging of signals incoming to a single telephone number and wireline to one or more than one device.

With regard to Claim 2, Applicants note that that the Snelling patent teaches, at the cited passage found in Col. 13, lines 56-64, that the NCU handles remote unit registration and authentication. Applicants respectfully assert that the functionality of the NCU which is detailed in the cited Snelling passage is not verifying the validity of a request from a wireless device through a wireless connection for the bridging of signals. Rather, the NCU registers the "remote" units within the single residence prior to use, as is expressly stated in Col. 2, lines 24-34,

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in accordance with programming for coupling signals to predetermined combinations of devices in the residence.

The Examiner has additionally cited the Kung patent as disclosing dynamic and selective bridging and user privacy input. Applicants respectfully disagree. The Kung patent is directed to queuing multiple calls to a subscriber. The calls are all to the same subscriber and are placed in a waiting call queue from which the subscriber can access the calls. Applicants assert that the placing of calls in a FIFO queue does not amount to dynamic and selective bridging based on stored unique information for wireless devices. Furthermore, the cited teachings regarding intercom services, which include extension transfer, call conferencing and internal caller ID, relate to subscriber selection of calls and call features, but do not relate to selective dynamic bridging by a bridge based on stored unique device information.

Applicants respectfully assert that the combination of Snelling and Kung would not render the claimed invention obvious. Even if one were to combine the teachings, the result would be a Snelling system with preprogrammed fixed assignments of signals from certain wirelines to certain

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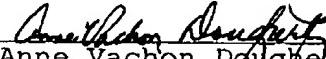
devices and wherein signals would be queued for delivery to the assigned device. Applicants contend that one would not be motivated by Kung to change the fixed assignment of wirelines to devices. Moreover, even if Kung provided such a suggestion to modify Snelling, wherein queued signals could be de-queued for dynamic bridging to an intended device, the de-queuing of queued signals would still be based on subscriber selection and would not result in the claimed invention with its automatic, selective, dynamic bridging based on stored unique device information.

Based on the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request entry of the amendments, reconsideration of the amended claim language in light of the remarks, withdrawal of the rejections, and allowance of the claims.

Respectfully submitted,

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